

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2007 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation

The U.S. Embassy in Amman is pleased to announce a call for proposals for the 2007 **Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation**. The Fund was established by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in 2001, to help countries preserve their cultural heritage and to demonstrate U.S. respect for different cultures around the world. Grants usually range from \$15,000 to \$30,000, but may be higher for exceptional projects.

The deadline for submitting proposals (in English) to the U.S. Embassy in Amman is close of business on Thursday, March 29, 2007. Recipients will be notified in June, 2007.

Proposals may include preservation projects directed at:

A cultural site or sites. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Preservation of an archaeological or historical site or sacred place or monument;
- An archeological survey as a component of a preservation plan;
- Preservation management planning for a site or sites in Jordan;
- Documentation of a site or sites in Jordan for preservation purposes.

An object or collection of objects from a site, a museum, or similar institution. This might include, but is not limited to:

- Conservation treatment of an object or collection of objects;
- Inventory of a collection of objects for conservation purposes;
- Creating suitable space and conditions for safe storage or exhibition of a collection of objects;
- Specialized training in the care and preservation of collections.

Forms of traditional cultural expression. This might include, but is not limited to:

- Documenting traditional music or dance forms;
- Compiling a dictionary of an endangered language;
- Documenting storytelling as part of traditional expression, e.g. folklore or traditional poetry;
- Support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts that are threatened by extinction.

Application Requirements:

1. Detailed description of the project and participants, including the time frame for completion.

2. Indication of the importance of the cultural or sacred site, object or collection or form of expression. It should have a close association with the history and cultural development of Jordan and demonstrate a need for preservation or conservation.
3. Indication of the urgency of the project, if any.
4. Detailed budget.
5. The impact of the U.S. contribution to the preservation project.
6. The application must be submitted by an established organization or institution. No grants can be approved for individuals.
7. Resume of the Project Director and other professional staff.
8. Indication of other funding sources, if any. (Preference is given to those projects with local, non-United States Government cost-sharing.)

Program Restrictions:

- This program is to support ONLY the preservation of cultural heritage. Conservation of natural heritage does not qualify for funding. The distinction between cultural and natural heritage: cultural heritage refers to objects, monuments, groups of buildings and properties with historical, aesthetic, archaeological, scientific, ethnological or anthropological value. Natural heritage refers to physical, biological and geological formations, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants and areas with scientific, conservation or aesthetic value.
- Digitization projects must take into account that digital storage media (CDs, DVDs, videotapes, audiotapes, and diskettes) are not sufficiently stable to be used as permanent archival storage. Digitalization must not rely exclusively on digital records. Analog or paper backup records must be maintained.
- Funds cannot be used to support conservation of or the purchase of privately owned, residential or commercial property or collections.
- As a general rule, the program does not support international travel. Funds may pay for travel for outside specialists, however, if justified as integral to the project. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Proposals must be directed at specific projects that exclusively support preservation of sites, or forms of traditional expression, conservation of objects or preventive conservation/preservation strategies. Line items for administrative staff, miscellaneous, or contingency will not be supported. Administrative fees are limited to 5% of the overall project costs.
- Funds cannot be applied to construction of new buildings or to reconstruction of a type of historical building; only the restoration of existing buildings can be supported.

- Strong encouragement is given to local non-U.S. government source cost-sharing (including in-kind) from sources such as the government of Jordan, international organizations, and the private sector.
- A special note regarding items that have a religious connection (including objects, sites, and other forms of traditional cultural expression): the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution permits the government to include religious objects and sites within an aid program under certain conditions. For example, an item with a religious connection (including a place of worship) may be the subject of a cultural preservation grant if the item derives its primary significance and is nominated solely on the basis of architectural, artistic, historical or other cultural (not religious) criteria.

The deadline for submissions is close of business on March 29, 2007. Proposals should be submitted electronically to Public Diplomacy Officer Cynthia Harvey at *Webmaster.Jordan@state.gov*.

For additional information about the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation, please visit <http://exchanges.state.gov/culprop/afcp/>.